

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A plasma display panel drive apparatus that executes a gradation display by having an address period in which
5 light-emitting cells are set, and a sustain period in which the light-emitting cells that were set in the address period are repeatedly lit up, comprising:

a pulse-output device which outputs a drive pulse to the plasma display panel during the sustain period;

10 a first intensity-level-detection device which detects the average intensity level;

a second intensity-level-detection device which detects the intensity level of each discharge cell; and

a pulse-voltage-control device which controls the
15 pulse-output device such that the drive-pulse voltage changes based on the average intensity level detected by the first intensity-level-detection device, and the intensity level of each the discharge cell that was detected by the second intensity-level-detection device.

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2. The plasma display panel drive apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the pulse-voltage-control device controls the pulse-output device by increasing the drive-pulse voltage
25 when the average intensity level that is detected by the first intensity-level-detection device is less than a specified level, and the intensity level of each the discharge cell

detected by the second intensity-level-detection device is greater than a specified level.

3. The plasma display panel drive apparatus according
5 to claim 1, wherein

the pulse-voltage-control device controls the pulse-output device by increasing the drive-pulse voltage according to the intensity level of each the discharge cell detected by the second intensity-level-detection device when
10 the average intensity level that is detected by the first intensity-level-detection device is less than a specified level.

4. A method of driving a plasma display panel for executing
15 a gradation display by having an address period in which light-emitting cells are set, and a sustain period in which the light-emitting cells that were set in the address period are repeatedly lit up, the method comprising:

a pulse-output process of outputting a drive pulse to
20 the plasma display panel during the sustain period;

a first intensity-level-detection process of detecting the average intensity level;

a second intensity-level-detection process of detecting the intensity level of each discharge cell; and

25 a pulse-voltage-control process of controlling the pulse-output device such that the drive-pulse voltage changes based on the average intensity level detected by the first

intensity-level-detection device, and the intensity level of each the discharge cell that was detected by the second intensity-level-detection device.

5 5. A driving a plasma display panel program embodied in a recording medium which can be read by a computer in a plasma display panel drive apparatus that executes a gradation display by having an address period in which light-emitting cells are set, and a sustain period in which the light-emitting
10 cells that were set in the address period are repeatedly lit up, the program making the computer function as:

 a pulse-output device which outputs a drive pulse to the plasma display panel during the sustain period;

 a first intensity-level-detection device which detects
15 the average intensity level;

 a second intensity-level-detection device which detects the intensity level of each discharge cell; and

 a pulse-voltage-control device which controls the pulse-output device such that the drive-pulse voltage changes
20 based on the average intensity level detected by the first intensity-level-detection device, and the intensity level of each the discharge cell that was detected by the second intensity-level-detection device.

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